

Message Text

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DEPT PASS SECRETARY BUTZ/USDA

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TAGS: EAGR, PGOV, BR

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH OF SAO PAULO STATE SECRETARY OF
AGRICULTURE PEDRO TASSINARI FILHO

REF: ARA-LA/BR/CONGEN PHONECON MAY 30

1. PEDRO TASSINARI FILHO (I.E. PEDRO TASSINARI, JR.), A RANCHER, AGRICULTURAL LAND OWNER AND INDUSTRIALIST WAS BORN MAY 18, 1928, IN SAO PAULO. TASSINARI STUDIED CHEMICAL ENGINEERING AND RECEIVED HIS ENGINEERING DEGREE FROM THE ESCOLA POLITECNICA OF SAO PAULO IN 1950. IN 1952 HE MOVED TO THE SMALL TOWN OF ORLANDIA (IN THE RIBEIRAO AREA OF THE CENTRAL-NORTHERN PART OF SAO PAULO STATE, NEAR THE BORDER WITH THE STATE OF MINAS GERAIS) WHERE, IN ADDITION TO ACCEPTING A POSITION AS AN INSTRUCTOR IN EDUCATION, HE ESTABLISHED A SMALL VEGETABLE OIL COMPANY CALLED THE COMPANHIA MOGIANA DE OLEOS E VEGETAIS. IN 1954 HE FOUNDED METALURGICA ORLANDIA S/A, A WIRE MANUFACTURING AND METAL-WORKING PLANT OF WHICH HE IS STILL THE MANAGING DIRECTOR. IN 1964, TOGETHER WITH OTHER LAND OWNERS IN THE AREA, HE ESTABLISHED THE COMPANHIA ACUCAREIRA VALE DO ROSARIO, A SUGAR MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISE, WHICH IN PLANT PERIOD SERVED AS A MODEL FOR THE REST OF THE SUGAR-AGROINDUSTRY.

2. PRIOR TO HIS ASSUMING THE POST OF STATE AGRICULTURE SECRETARY, UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SAO PA 01191 041151Z

RY, TASSINARI HAD LIMITED EXPERIENCE IN PUBLIC OFFICE. BETWEEN

1955-1959, HE SERVED AS A CITY COUNCILMAN IN ORLANDIA AND ALSO SERVED AS MAYOR OF THAT TOWN, 1960-1963. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS, HE WAS ELECTED MAYOR ON A COALITION TICKET REPRESENTING THE MAJOR POLITICAL INTERESTS IN THE TOWN AND OBTAINED 70 PERCENT OF THE VOTES. DURING THIS PERIOD, TASSINARI REPORTEDLY WAS A MEMBER OF THE LIBERAL-CONSERVATIVE, LARGELY AGRICULTURAL-BASED POLITICAL PARTY CALLED THE UDN. FOLLOWING THE REVOLUTION OF 1964 AND THE CREATION OF A MANDATORY TWO-PARTY SYSTEM IN 1965, TASSINARI BECAME A SUPPORTER OF ARENA, THE GOVERNMENT PARTY.

3. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPERS ACCOUNTS, TASSINARI'S AGRICULTURAL LAND OWNINGS IN ORLANDIA AND IN THE ADJACENT TOWN OF MORRO AGUDO EXTEND OVER AN AREA OF 2,470 ACRES. HE ALSO HAS A CATTLE RANCH IN THE AREA OF ARACATUBA (THE NORTHWESTERN CORNER OF THE STATE OF SAO PAULO). TASSINARI IS A MEMBER OF THE BRAZILIAN METALS ASSOCIATION (ASSOCIACAO BRASILEIRA DE METAIS). HE IS ALSO DIRECTOR OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS OF ELECTRICAL CONDUCTOR PRODUCTS, LAMINATED AND WIRE PRODUCTS OF THE STATE OF SAO PAULO.

4. TASSINARI TOOK OFFICE AS STATE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE ON MARCH 15, 1975 (ALONG WITH GOVERNOR PAULO EGYDIO MARTINS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNOR'S CABINET). THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE GOVERNOR AND HIS STATE SECRETARIES IS FOUR YEARS.

5. IN A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS SHORTLY BEFORE TAKING OFFICE, TASSINARI STATED THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT TO EFFECT GREAT CHANGES IN HIS ADMINISTRATION SINCE THE PAULISTAS WERE GOOD FARMERS AND THE STATE SECRETARIAT OF AGRICULTURE WAS BASICALLY IN GOOD SHAPE. SINCE PRACTICALLY ALL LAND IN THE STATE AVAILABLE FOR FARMING IS PRESENTLY UNDER CULTIVATION, TASSINARI STATED THAT EMPHASIS WILL HAVE TO BE PLACED ON INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN SAO PAULO'S POSITION AS THE SOURCE OF 30 PERCENT OF BRAZIL'S AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. HE ALSO STATED THAT HIS ADMINISTRATION INTENDED TO GIVE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING AREAS: THE PROVISION OF AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE TO THE FARMERS, ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE MANUFACTURE OF FERTILIZER, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, THE CONSTRUCTION OF AGRICULTURAL STORAGE FACILITIES, IMPROVEMENT OF THE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK AND CON-

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 SAO PA 01191 041151Z

SERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

6. THE SECRETARY IS MARRIED TO THE FORMER CELIA DE ALMEIDA PRADO AND THEY HAVE FOUR CHILDREN.

7. CONGEN WILL FORWARD ADDITIONAL BIO DATA AS OBTAINED.
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